

USE OF CERTAIN GREEK ISLANDS FOR TRAINING EXERCISES BY MARINE UNITS

Exchange of notes at Athens February 11 and 21, 1949
Entered into force February 21, 1949

63 Stat. 2683; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1972

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

AMERICAN EMBASSY
Athens, Greece, February 11, 1949

No. 71

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to inquire whether it would be agreeable to the Royal Hellenic Government to permit Marine units with the United States Fleet in the Mediterranean to carry out from time to time limited shore training exercises in Crete or in other Greek island localities mutually convenient to the competent American and Greek authorities and subject to *ad hoc* arrangements between these authorities. The purpose of such training would merely be to maintain the proficiency and condition of the Marine officers and men involved who are at sea for prolonged periods. Units engaged in training would continue to be ship based so that no facilities would be established ashore. The training conducted would consist of practice marches, short tactical problems, and, where facilities are already available, small arms firing.

I also have the honor to ask whether the Royal Hellenic Government would be good enough to grant the United States Navy permission to use the uninhabited Greek island of Pondikonisi (latitude 35–35 north, longitude 23–28 east), or similar, mutually convenient islands, for shore bombardment practices. The practices would include some flights over and some personal landings on the islands.

If the Royal Hellenic Government is agreeable to extending these facilities, it is proposed that this note and Your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute an agreement between our respective Governments.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

HENRY F. GRADY

His Excellency

CONSTANTINE TSALDARIS,
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Athens.

The Deputy Prime Minister to the American Ambassador

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
ΑΝΤΙΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΣ ΚΤΒΕΡΝΗΣΕΩΣ

Conf. 1

ATHENS, February 21, 1949

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter No. 71 of February 11th requesting the Royal Hellenic Government's consent for the supplying of certain training facilities to the United States Fleet in the Mediterranean.

I am authorized to inform Your Excellency that the Royal Hellenic Government, having noted the intended purpose and nature of the desired facilities and, more particularly, being anxious to avail themselves of every opportunity that would enable them to display their loyal adherence to the tradition of Greek-American friendship, are happy to agree to the proposals contained in Your Excellency's letter.

Please accept, your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

ALEX. N. DIOMÈDE
Deputy Prime-Minister

H. E. the Honorable HENRY F. GRADY
Embassy of the U.S.A.
Athens.